

REMARKS

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

Independent claims 1, 8 and 13 have been amended to clarify that it is the identity of the content and the destination location of the content which are extracted from the data and used to create a mapping between the identity of the content information and the destination location of the content item.

By providing this mapping the present invention provides a readily scaleable arrangement for improving access to content. This is because it increases the number of locations from which content can be retrieved.

Applicant respectfully submits that Norris does not teach the feature of "extracting identity information for the content" as recited in Claim 1. Norris is not concerned with improving access to content stored within a network. Rather, Norris is concerned with the dynamic configuration of network parameters in order to improve performance of the network.

In column 6 lines 8 to 11 Norris explicitly recites the type of information that is collected from transactions on the network by a device on the network in order to discover network topology. These are: "participants involved in the transaction, the latency of the transaction, the protocol type of the data packets and the time that the transaction occurred". Nowhere does Norris disclose or even suggest decoding transactions on the network to discover the identity of the content of those transactions.

The Examiner admits in the Office Action that Rocheberger does not disclose the feature of "extracting identity information for the content" and Applicant therefore submits that Claim 1 is not made obvious by Rocheberger in view of Norris.

Furthermore, Applicant submits that one skilled in the art would not combine the features of Norris with Rocheberger to arrive at the present invention.

As discussed in previous communications, Rocheberger describes a method which acts to "automatically and dynamically register 'well known' addresses on the appropriate ports" (Column 7 lines 31 - 33). "Any entity in the network that provides distributed services that are to be shared among many nodes and applications on the network" may send "an indication containing a hop count on a periodic basis out on all Network to Network Interface ports in the node that implements the LECS" (see Abstract).

Rocheberger describes "registering the well known address and a received cost value [received in an indication message] on the port receiving the indication message if the well known address has not been previously registered" (emphasis added) or "updating an existing cost value with the received cost value" (see, for example, Column 5 lines 18 – 22 or Column 5 lines 61 - 65).

It can therefore be understood that a skilled person upon reading Rocheberger would learn that the well known address with the lowest cost is registered. This is the opposite to the present invention where mappings from content to a destination location is stored in a "content index database which is operable to provide an instance mapping containing a list of destination locations"

As discussed above Norris is concerned with configuring network parameters. This is achieved, as described in the section titled "Observing Network Transactions" starting Column 5 line 38 by indexing traffic flow through a node by generating a table.

Applicant submit that there is no motivation in Rocheberger to combine it with the features of Norris such that the invention of Rocheberger is implemented using a table. Rather, the aim of Rocheberger is to ensure that the well known address with the lowest cost value is stored in order to determine "an efficient route to a well known address".

Applicant therefore submits that Claim 1 would not have been obvious in view of Rocheberger and Norris.

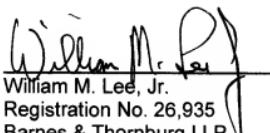
Claims 8 and 13 recite analogous features to Claim 1 and Applicant therefore submits that for at least the reasons given above, that Claims 8 and 13 are not obvious in view of Rochberger and Norris.

Finally, Applicant submits that Claims 2 to 6 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependencies.

In view of the above, further and favorable reconsideration is urged.

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Respectfully submitted,



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